

**WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST**  
Travel Solo Together

# ENGLAND

## Castles and Gardens

with Women of the Midwest!

June 22 - July 3, 2025



Dear Women of the Midwest,

Here it is! The long-sought-after journey to enjoy and experience some of the finest castles and gardens in England is back!

With years of famous history, understated charm, and quaint picture-postcard beauty, England will astound you with its diversity. Bursting with iconic images from royal palaces, ancient Roman baths and walls, grand castles, country manors, thatched cottages, and the most beautiful gardens in the world - we are off to experience it all!

History is everywhere; there were Shakespeare and The Beatles, Big Ben and the London Tower, majestic Windsor Castle, Westminster Abbey, and Buckingham Palace. Today's Britain is multicultural, with some of the world's best museums, top-class performing arts, and unbeatable big-city thrills.

The English countryside is a mosaic of breathtaking, dramatic beauty: rolling hills dotted with historic houses, mist-cloaked peaks and glacial ribbon lakes, elegant seaside resorts, medieval fortresses, formal gardens, and wild moors of bracken and heather ...all await our discovery. And for all of you who loved the Downton Abbey adventures, we will visit the village of Bampton and see all the picturesque countryside surrounding this beautiful Abbey. This is an adventure in itself!

I hope you will consider joining me on this once-in-a-lifetime journey.

Sincerely yours,  
Roni (Rhonda) Thramer,  
Ambassador, Women of the Midwest



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.



## Westminster Abbey



### June 22, 2025 - Sunday

#### Traveling to England

Our adventure begins as we take an overnight flight to London. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service; you are on your way to a dream destination!

### June 23, 2025 - Monday

#### London

Founded by the Romans over 2,000 years ago, the bustling metropolis of London straddles the murky Thames with a wealth of cultural diversity and over 300 spoken languages. Upon our arrival at Heathrow Airport, we will meet our tour guide, who will follow us throughout our journey. We are off to central London for a delightful brunch. Later, we will visit the incomparable Westminster, home of one of the world's most iconic Cathedrals and England's greatest building; the embodiment of the nation's history; theater of Kings and Queens and hallowed resting place of statesmen and soldiers; scientist, priests and poets, the magnificent Westminster Abbey welcomes over one million visitors every year - and little wonder! We continue to the Houses of Parliament before heading to one of the most visited landmarks in the city, Buckingham Palace (photo stop); if you look hard enough, you might just catch a glimpse of His Majesty at one of the palace's 760 windows ... Check into our hotel, relax, and unwind. B

### June 24, 2025 - Tuesday

#### Kew Gardens - Kensington Palace

We enjoy a hearty breakfast before heading out to visit Kew Gardens (the Royal Botanic Gardens), London's largest UNESCO World Heritage site and home to tens of thousands of rare plant species,

## Kew Gardens - Botanical Splendor



immaculate gardens, and Britain's smallest royal palace. This is a journey through 250 years of botanical splendor. Explore the Gardens' magnificent glasshouses, from the tropical rainforests of the sensational Palm House to the recently restored Temperate House; experience life inside a real beehive in the "The Hive;" meander through the serene 17th-century Queen's Garden, and soak up the intoxicating scents of the fabulous Rose Garden. Lunch is served at a local restaurant before we continue to Kensington Palace. Kensington Palace remains home to members of the royal family, including TRH The Prince and Princess of Wales and their children, and was also the first marital home of The Duke and Duchess of Sussex. The afternoon is at our own pace. B | L

### June 25, 2025 - Wednesday

#### Tower of London - West End Show

After an early breakfast, visit the Tower of London. Few parts of the UK are as steeped in legend, superstition, and extraordinary historical moments as the notorious Tower of London. But despite its grisly reputation as a place of torture and death, within its walls, you'll also discover the enthralling history of a royal palace, a working armory, treasury, and zoo - and the world's largest diamond, the 106-carat Koh-i-Nur, or "Mountain of Light." Join one of the legendary Beefeaters on a tour and hear their bloody tales; stand on the spot - if you dare! We return to our hotel, and the rest of the day is yours to enjoy. Tonight, we will be amused during a pre-theater dinner and West End Show. B | D

### June 26, 2025 - Thursday

#### London at Leisure - Dinner Cruise

## Tower Bridge



Breakfast at your own pace and a day at leisure to explore and find your favorite spot in London. Visit one of the trendy food markets, stroll Notting Hill and Portobello market, Primrose Hill and Camden Town market, Greenwich Village with the Royal Observatory, Victoria and Albert Museum with its extraordinary fashion, theater, and jewelry galleries (and the best museum shop in the entire UK!), or simply "shop till you drop." Your Oyster Card (public transportation card) makes it easy and fast to navigate around. Tonight's dinner cruise is a beautiful way to say a fond goodbye to this stunning city. B | D

### June 27, 2025 - Friday

#### Windsor Castle - JFK Memorial - Burnham

We depart London this morning. Nestled in the spectacular Berkshire landscape, atop a crag one hundred feet above the river Thames sits the inimitable Windsor Castle, the largest occupied castle in the world. Step inside to explore Windsor's intriguing history, from the perfectly magnificent State Rooms adorned with exquisite tapestries, wood carvings, and artworks by Rubens and Rembrandt to Queen Mary's Dolls House. There is also the breathtaking architecture of St George's Chapel - home to Britain's oldest order of Knights, the wedding venue of Harry and Meghan, and the resting place of no less than ten Kings of England. Leisurely lunch in Windsor before we stop at the Runnymede JFK Memorial. It commemorates the visit of President John F. Kennedy to the United Kingdom in June 1963. The site holds significance as it is also the location where the Magna Carta, a historical document that laid the foundation for modern democratic principles and human rights, was sealed by King John of



## Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford



## Cogges Manor's Walled Kitchen Garden



## Always Take Time for Tea!



England in 1215. We will enjoy our evening in Burnham, where our hotel is nestled within the Burnham Beeches Nature Reserve, a beautiful area known for its ancient woodland and scenic landscapes. Dinner at our hotel. B | D

### June 28, 2025 - Saturday

#### Downton Abbey Theme Day - Oxford

The theme of the day, Ladies: Downton Abbey! Though we cannot guarantee tickets to Highclere Castle, what we can guarantee is a day you will never forget! The nearby village of Bampton served as one of the major filming locations and was chosen for its well-preserved historic buildings and picturesque streets. Some of the notable filming locations include St. Mary's Church; the exterior was used as the Downton Abbey parish church and appeared in several wedding and funeral scenes. Bampton Library served as the exterior of the Downton Cottage Hospital. Bampton Village Hall was transformed into the interior of the cottage hospital for filming. Churchgate House, a beautiful Georgian house, was used as Isobel Crawley's home, known as Crawley House, in the show. And finally, the Old Grammar School, which was used as the exterior of Downton Abbey's schoolhouse. We will enjoy lunch at a local pub, and before heading to our hotel, we stop at Cogges Manor Farm. The farm has a history dating back over 1,000 years and is known for its well-preserved medieval manor house, tearoom, and gift shop, where you can purchase local produce, crafts, and souvenirs. We arrive in Oxford in the late afternoon. A city of Dreaming Spires, a sublime ensemble of worldly wonders, and a world-class hub

of noteworthy innovation. Oxford surely ranks amongst England's most beautiful cities - prepare to be besotted!  
B | L

### June 29, 2025 - Sunday

#### Oxford - Bath

The day is dedicated to Oxford! We will walk Radcliffe Square, explore the city's magnificent University colleges, and visit the stunning Christ Church Cathedral with its dual role as a cathedral and college chapel. Lunch is served in Oxford before visiting the Botanic Garden, the United Kingdom's oldest, with its delightful walled garden, beautiful glasshouses, and fabulous Arboretum. Our day ends in Bath, founded by the Romans as a thermal spa and an important center of the wool industry in the Middle Ages. The entire city is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. B | L

### June 30, 2025 - Monday

#### Bath

Built above Bath's 115° hot springs around 70AD, and today one of the best-preserved Roman remains in the world, the breathtaking Roman Baths is surely one of the thrilling highlights of our journey. Preserved within are its four main features, the Roman Temple, the Sacred Spring, the Roman Bath House, and a fabulous museum containing a remarkable collection of artifacts from Aquae Sulis. The afternoon is yours to enjoy. Swing by the Guildhall Market, the oldest shopping venue in the city, with more than twenty stallholders selling pretty souvenirs. Or, enjoy your afternoon tea by the Pulteney Bridge. We gather tonight to enjoy dinner at a restaurant in Bath. B | D

### July 1, 2025 - Tuesday

#### Arundel Castle - Tunbridge Wells

After a delicious breakfast, we are off to Arundel Castle. The Castle is home to the Duke of Norfolk, reflecting nearly 1,000 years of history and commanding the surrounding landscape with magnificent views (cover page photo!). Fine furniture and works of art in sumptuously furnished rooms and spectacular gardens! Our lunch is local, and we will reach Tunbridge Wells in the afternoon. This was a major holiday destination for the gentry and royalty and remains a charming place to shop and stroll. B | L

### July 2, 2025 - Wednesday

#### Sissinghurst Castle Garden

Get ready to feed your soul! Sissinghurst Castle Garden is the quintessential English country garden fantasy and one of the most beautiful gardens in Britain. Carpets of bluebells and flaming reds, exquisite elegance of the White Garden, and intoxicating rose-scented displays ...judge by yourself! Our afternoon visit is a well-kept secret; you will see, taste, and dream away! Tonight we delight in a farewell dinner at our beautiful hotel. B | T | D

### July 3, 2025 - Thursday

#### Traveling Home

All too soon, your vacation has ended. Transfer to Heathrow airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and to clear security before boarding and flying west across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. B

*Itinerary subject to change*

**B = Breakfast L = Lunch T = Tasting D = Dinner**



**To register contact:**

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 GroupDepartment@executivetravel.com  
 www.executivetravel.com

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**ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:**  
 Via our website [www.WomenoftheMidwest.com/journeys](http://www.WomenoftheMidwest.com/journeys)

**Package Price:**

Per person in a shared double room:	\$5,595
Per person in a single room:	\$6,995

Triple rooms are not available on this trip.

We offer "Pair & Share"-service. Ask us to assist in finding your roommate!

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon signing up. Deposit can be paid by cash, check, or credit card. The balance is due on February 21, 2025, and is non-refundable. The balance can be paid in cash or by check. Credit card payment(s) (any payment applied to the tour after the deposit) will access a 4% fee.

**FEBRUARY DISCOUNT:**  
 Register before February 28,  
 and receive a **\$200 DISCOUNT!**

*This tour will be materialized with a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 21 travelers. Should the number fall below 15, all funds paid to Executive Travel will be refunded 90 days prior to departure.*

**Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4**

This tour involves a considerable amount of walking, stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and steep areas within the places visited. Expect to walk between 4 and 5 miles over the course of a day. Add to this the walking you do outside the group activities. This trip is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties.

**Travel Insurance:**  
 We recommend travel insurance to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer a plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services. For rates and plan highlights, please ask us.  
*Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.*

**Group airfare:** See separate insert.

**Accommodations** (*final accommodations 90 days prior to dep.:*)


- London, The Cumberland Hotel or similar
- Burnham/Buckinghamshire, Burnham Beeches Hotel or similar
- Oxford, Voco Oxford Thames or similar
- Bath, Hampton By Hilton Hotel or similar
- Tunbridge Wells, One Warwick Park Hotel or similar

**Included:**

- 10 nights accommodations at local 4-star hotels
- Porterage at hotels (one bag per person)
- 1 brunch
- 9 breakfasts
- 4 lunches
- 5 dinners (incl. a pre-theater dinner & Thames dinner cruise)
- 1 tasting (surprise!)
- Private motor coach transportation as per itinerary
- Sightseeing program as per itinerary
- All admissions as per itinerary
- Oyster Transportation Card (GBP 20 credit)
- Professional English-speaking tour guide during the entire program in the U.K.
- All local taxes and fees as per September 3, 2024
- Women of the Midwest Ambassador, June 22 - July 3, 2025

**Excluded:**

- Airfare
- Airline baggage fees for your second checked bag. Your first checked bag up to 50 lbs is free
- Travel insurance
- Professional fees, \$75 per person due at the time of registration
- Gratuities to local tour guide and motor coach drivers (estimate a total of \$15 per day)
- Personal expenses
- Meals other than those mentioned in the tour program
- Entrance fees to monuments and/or museums other than those mentioned
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions



**WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST**  
 Travel Solo Together  
 A wholly-owned division of Executive Travel

Forwarding registration and deposit signifies that you agree to the terms and conditions found at [executivetravel.com/etl-home/vacation/escorted-tours](http://executivetravel.com/etl-home/vacation/escorted-tours)

Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.



## GROUP AIRFARE!

We offer group airfare with United Airlines as follows:

June 22, 2025	Omaha* - San Francisco	6:00 AM	7:50 AM
June 22, 2025	San Francisco - London (LHR)	12:30 PM	6:55 AM (June 23, 2025)
July 3, 2025	London (LHR) - Denver	11:05 AM	1:50 PM
July 3, 2025	Denver - Omaha*	5:55 PM	8:25 PM

**\$1,575 per person economy class, including taxes and fees.**

\*We are happy to assist with airfare from a different airport than Omaha. Reach out to get your quote. If you travel from a different airport than Omaha, we aim to have you meet your fellow travelers at London Heathrow Airport on June 23 and return from London Heathrow Airport around the same time as the rest of the group on July 3. Individual additional transfers may be necessary if meeting the main group is not possible. An additional cost may apply.

### **Important notes about seat assignments, upgrades, TSA Pre-Check- & Frequent Flyer Numbers:**

Group airfare comes with **seat assignments 30 days prior to departure**. We cannot confirm precise seat numbers earlier than 30 days prior to your departure and therefore cannot guarantee the availability of specific seating on the aircraft. We do our best to honor your preferences (window, aisle seat).

**Premium seating upgrades** (Economy Plus) can be purchased and confirmed once the tickets are issued = 30 days prior to departure. Contact us if you have any questions about this and kindly note that certain exceptions may exist.

**Mileage credit** for individuals on group air contracts is not guaranteed and is subject to the rules of the airline under contract.

**TSA Pre-Check numbers and Frequent Flyer numbers must be reported at the time of reservation.** Otherwise, each traveler must provide these numbers upon check-in on the day of departure.

**Taxes, fuel charges and security fees are subject to change.**

**Air schedules are subject to change at the discretion of the airline.**

**SECURE YOUR AIRFARE WHEN SIGNING UP!  
THE ITINERARY IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

